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CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1.   (Currently amended) A method of:
  encoding a data set into a plurality of coding units, with each coding unit being
      progressively encoded to sequentially present most significant data
      followed by less significant data;

  packetizing each of the plurality of coding units to provide transmissible data
      packets; and

  marking by time stamping each transmissible data packet from the same coding
      unit to allow time based selective flushing of those data packets carrying
      less significant data; and

  flushing those queued time stamped transmissible data packets from a transport
      layer, a link layer, and a media access control (MAC) layer of a data
      handling protocol stack after a predetermined time if all transmissible data
      packets for the same coding unit are not transmitted within that
      predetermined time.

2.   (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 2 without prejudice.

3.   (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 3 without prejudice.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a data queue
for temporarily holding coding units stored in the data queue as time stamped data
packets having the same time stamps, and interrupting data packet transmission if data
packets belonging to a coding unit in the data queue are not transmitted within a preset
time period.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting progressively
coded transmissible data packets using an asynchronous reliable packet communication
protocol.

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6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting progressively coded transmissible data packets over a wireless physical layer.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, further wherein data packets are asynchronously transmitted using a connectionless protocol.

8.   (Currently amended) An article comprising a computer-readable medium, which stores computer-executable instructions, the instructions defined to cause a computer to:

progressively code a data set into a plurality of coding units, with each coding unit carrying data sequentially arranged in order of importance, with most significant data being readable before less significant data,

packetize each of the plurality of coding units to provide transmissible data packets, and

mark by time stamping each transmissible data packet from the same coding unit to allow time based selective flushing of those data packets-; and

flush those queued time stamped transmissible data packets from a transport layer, a link layer, and a media access control (MAC) layer of a data handling protocol stack after a predetermined time if all transmissible data packets for the same coding unit are not transmitted within that predetermined time.

9.   (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 9 without prejudice.

10.   (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 10 without prejudice.

11.   (Original) The article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions of claim 8, wherein the instructions further cause maintenance of a data queue for temporarily holding coding units as time stamped data packets having the same time stamps, and interrupting data packet transmission if data packets belonging to a coding unit in the data queue are not transmitted within a preset time period.

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12. (Original) The article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions of claim 9, wherein the instructions further cause transmission of progressively coded transmissible data packets over a wireless physical layer.

13. (Original) The article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions of claim 9, wherein the instructions further cause encoding of image data using transform coding.

14. (Currently amended) A digital transmission system comprising:
an encoding unit to progressively code a data set into a plurality of coding units, with each coding unit carrying data sequentially arranged in order of importance, with most significant data being readable before less significant data, and;
a marking module to mark each transmissible data packet from the same coding unit, allowing time based selective flushing of those data sets;
a flushing module to selectively flush those data sets in a transport layer in a link layer, and in a media access control (MAC) layer of a data handling protocol stack; and
a decoding module to decode transmitted data packets.

15. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 2 without prejudice.

16. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 16 without prejudice.

17. (Original) The digital transmission system of claim 14, further comprising a transmission queue for temporarily holding time stamped data packets having the same time stamps, and interrupting data packet transmission if the transmission queue is not filled within a preset time period.

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18. (Original) The digital transmission system of claim 14, further comprising a wireless transmission unit to transmit progressively coded transmissible data packets over a wireless physical layer.

19. (Original) The digital transmission system of claim 14, further comprising a transform coding module for encoding image data.

20. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 20 without prejudice.

21. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 21 without prejudice.

22. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 22 without prejudice.

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